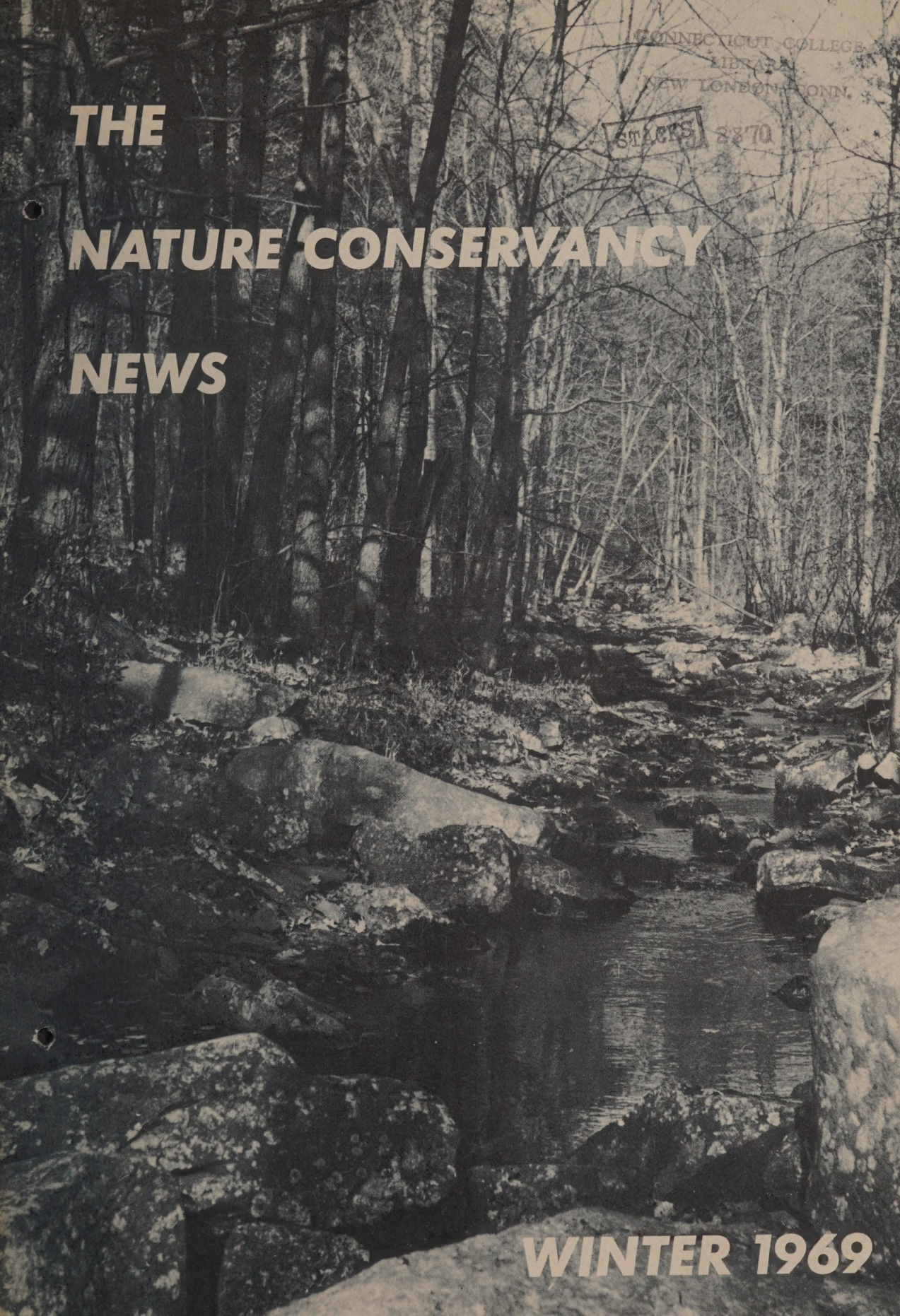
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THE NATURE CONSERVANCY NEWS

WINTER 1969

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THE NATURE CONSERVANCY NEWS

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WILLIAM CANINE, EDITOR

Volume 19, Number 4 **Winter 1969**

New Projects 4
A rundown of projects begun in recent months

Wassaw Island — A Precious Resource 6
But not everyone wants it to remain as it is

The Market and the Marsh, **by Roland C. Clement** 8
A few paragraphs from an article that appears in the November Audubon

Art for the Mountain, **by T. Halsey Melone** 9
An account of a unique fund raising venture

A Taxonomy of Troubles, **by Gregory Archbald** 10
Legal tools available in the defense of natural areas

Correspondence 16

News Briefs 17

Chapter News 18

Books 19

Newspaper Comment 20
Concerning Wassaw Island, Hymettus Woods, and other preserves

Ten Projects that Need Your Support 23

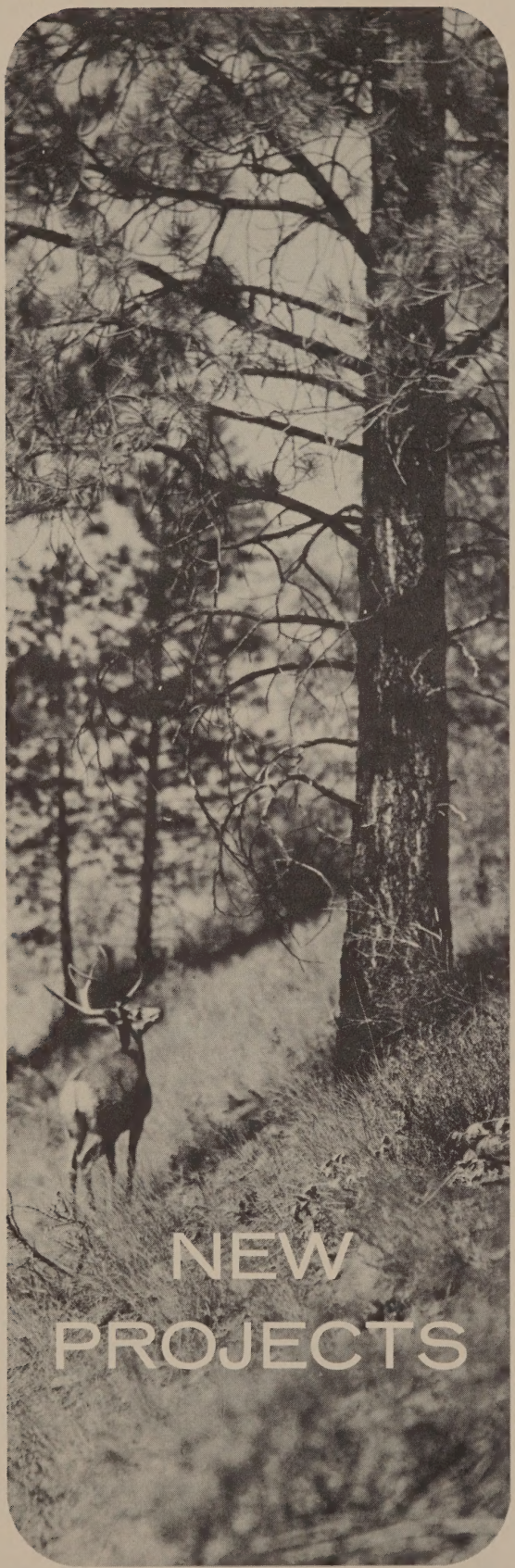
Cover Photo: Baxter's Hollow in Sauk County, Wisconsin. Half the cost of this lovely area was contributed by a man who has known the area all his life. (Photo by Ronald Rich.)

The Nature Conservancy is a member-governed organization, incorporated in the District of Columbia for non-profit educational and scientific purposes. The National Office is in Washington, D. C., and Regional Offices are located in Evanston, Illinois, and San Francisco, California.

The Nature Conservancy was incorporated in 1951. The Conservancy's first effort at land-saving was the Mianus River Gorge in Westchester County, New York, in 1954. This very successful endeavor turned out to be the forerunner of 373 projects in which the Conservancy has since been involved. These 373 sanctuaries are located in 41 states and total approximately 130,000 acres.

The Nature Conservancy works closely not only with numerous scientific and conservation organizations but with municipal and state governments as well as the federal government.

The Nature Conservancy is the organization rallying the skills, the techniques, and the funds actually necessary to save land. Its total resources are massed for this one objective.



U.S. FOREST SERVICE

A primitive Georgia marsh island, a Minnesota prairie, a virgin Wisconsin woods, a California bay tideland parcel, were among the Conservancy's acquisitions this quarter year. Notable for the variety of scientific study opportunity and valuable wildlife habitat they provide, the new conservancies are, as well, concrete tribute to the quiet diligence of the sustained volunteer effort on which the Conservancy depends. In addition to the preserves listed below, the following conservancies were enlarged: Kiess Great Blue Heron Rookery in Minnesota, Barbersville Falls in New York, Cedarburg Beech Woods and Baraboo Hills in Wisconsin, Mason Neck in Virginia, Tippecanoe Island in Indiana and the Walcott Preserve in Connecticut.

BONAR TIDELANDS — San Francisco Bay Project (Marin County, California). A quarter-acre parcel located on the shore in a residental area. Donated by Dr. Perry A. Bonar, the tideland area offers scenic views of San Francisco Bay and East Marin Island egret rookery. Lying 300 feet east of Upton Tidelands this tract is important for checkerboarding against future development.

BRIDGEWATER RIDGE (Litchfield County, Connecticut). Located in the township of Bridgewater, this 74-acre preserve offers a classic view of Connecticut's rolling hills. On a western slope, the land rises from 700 to 800 feet, overlooking the Houstanic Valley. The preserve is a gift.

GREAT ISLAND (New London County, Connecticut). This 11-acre salt-marsh is a key portion of one of the finest marshes in Connecticut. It serves as a home and stop-over for shore and migratory birds as well as a nesting ground for ospreys. The tract, adjacent to state-owned property, is located near the mouth of the Connecticut River. It is subject to tidal flooding. The island is a gift of William E. S. Griswold, Jr., of Old Lyme, Connecticut.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT PRESERVE (Duval County, Florida). This 361-acre area fronting on the St. Johns River is a gift of William Browne of Jacksonville. Valued at more than $1 million because of its proximity to Jacksonville, the property has been undisturbed for many years and

provides a great variety of habitat. In the dense forest grow live oak, water oak, hickory, cabbage palmetto and magnolia with a scattering of huge old slash and longleaf pine, sweet gum and loblolly bay. In the understory saw-palmetto abounds. Each of the two marsh areas contains a heron rookery. Spanish moss drapes the whole. The numerous birds include anhingas, bald eagles, and yellow-crowned night herons. Of archaeological interest are extensive Indian kitchen middens. The area will be used for scientific study by the University of Jacksonville.

WASSAW ISLAND (Chatham County, Georgia). This is probably the wildest of the Georgia coastal islands. The forest on Wassaw has not been cut in over a century. More than 10,700 acres in extent, of which more than 80% is salt marsh, the remainder forest, fresh water, and ocean beach, Wassaw was purchased by the Conservancy from the Parsons Trust and turned over immediately to the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife as a national sanctuary. At least one hundred species of birds either nest on the island or stop over there. Slash pine dominates the forest upperstory. Cabbage palmetto and magnolias reach into the pines, with live oak, holly, and mulberry growing in profusion under them. On the forest floor, bay and palmetto predominate. The entire forest drips with Spanish moss. In 1967, the National Park Service designated the island a national landmark. (See pages 6 and 20.)

ROSCOE PRAIRIE (Stearns County, Minnesota). This fine remnant of original prairie is located two miles west of Roscoe. Numerous prairie species, including *Cypripedium candidum* are native to the property. Miss Louise Muggli purchased the 56-acre area and donated nearly one half the purchase price. The remainder was raised by the Minnesota Chapter.

MISSOURI DOBBINS WOODLAND (Nodaway County, Missouri). A 40-acre tract of virgin woodland, one of the few such remaining in the state. Two small streams flow through the dense oak-hickory climax forest. Four species of oak, two of hickory, and ironwood are found. More than 100 species of birds have been sighted. The area also contains trails. This valuable area was purchased on behalf of the Conservancy by Spencer Jones, Missouri Chapter Vice Chairman. The Chapter is presently raising funds to repay the balance of $4,000 still due.

HYMETTUS WOODS (Wake County, North Carolina). This five-acre woodland donated to The Nature Conservancy by Miss Cicely Browne, is located in the heart of Raleigh. Boasting a wide variety of plant life, the dominant trees are white oak, sweet gum, black oak, red maple and loblolly pine, with a typical dogwood-herbaceous understory. A small stream flows across the land, widening to become a small pool. The wooded oasis will be deeded to the City of Raleigh to become a nature park. (See page 21.)

ABELMAN'S GORGE (Sauk County, Wisconsin). Of value primarily as a geological study and scenic area, this 6.7-acre preserve was in danger of nearby quarrying operations. Part of a sheer-walled gorge, approximately 200 feet deep, the property consists of both open quartzite rock faces and woods of white pine, hemlock and mixed hardwoods. The rock wall lies along Baraboo Bluffs by the Baraboo River. Midwestern universities have regularly used the area for study.

BAXTER'S HOLLOW (Sauk County, Wisconsin). Rugged hills, with steep quartzite cliffs and a deep gorge comprise this beautiful 171-acre preserve. Along the heavy-flowing trout stream grow sugar maple; oak and white pine dominate the higher elevations. The area is a nesting site for winter wrens; turkey vultures and hawks are common; ruffed grouse and woodcock occur. (See cover.)

RANGER MAC'S FEN (McNeel Preserve) (Racine County, Wisconsin). A gift of Dr. and Mrs. Laird McNeel, this preserve, south of Burlington, consists of 33 acres of prairie, fen and marsh. Plant species include spruce, white and Norway pine and white lady's slipper orchid.

WASSAW ISLAND — A PRECIOUS RESOURCE

Wassaw Island, off the coast of Georgia, separated from the mainland by thousands of acres of salt marsh, waving *spartina* rustling with the movement of the surging water and the spell-binding winds and the myriad of creatures that depend upon the marsh, is now a national wildlife sanctuary.

Of the island's 10,700 acres, 9,000 are salt marsh. On the island proper, a half-mile wide spine of barrier between the sea and the marsh, grow slash pines that have not been disturbed in more than a century. The cabbage palmetto reach nearly as high as the pines, and here and there is a giant old magnolia. Live oaks and holly and bay fill the space between the taller trees and the saw-palmetto that everywhere shields the earth with its fans.

In the slough at the island's north end, egrets and herons stalk. A pair of osprey rest in a dead pine. There are ducks on the water, and in the bay and palmetto, migratory warblers by the thousands dart about, accompanied by blue-gray gnatcatchers, vireos, and other small songbirds. The beach is garnished with lady's-ears and sea dollars, but except for these and the beached horseshoe crabs and occasional strands of seaweed and tufts of sponge, it is a swept beach. The tracks of deer and raccoon wander onto the sand and off again into the brush. Alligators and rattlesnakes are here but unseen.

In October 1969, with a generous gift of $1,000,000 from Mrs. Margaret Parmly of New York City, The Nature Conservancy purchased Wassaw Island from the Parsons Trust and immediately turned the deed over to the people of the United States, through the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife. Thus Wassaw Island was assured of remaining in the state of wilderness wished for it by its caretakers of over a century.

Some four years had passed since Herbert Hiller, at that time assistant director of operations of the Conservancy, attended a meeting of the Parsons Trust in New York. At this meeting, the Conservancy learned about Wassaw Island and that this most wild of Georgia's coastal islands might some day become a public trust, if it could remain under the natural conditions in which the Parsons family had held it.

George Milmine of Lakeland, Connecticut, a trustee of the Parsons Trust and a descendant of George Parsons, who had bought the island in 1866 as a present to his new bride, observed that "the trustees and beneficiaries of Wassaw Island would naturally prefer to remain undisturbed in their possession and run it as it presently is, a wildlife refuge. Should this prove to be impossible, they would like to see the island in the hands of some agency or organization which could give a reasonable assurance of the island's being continued for conservation purposes in its present wild state."

It was at this same New York meeting four years ago that Mr. Hiller had the opportunity to describe The Nature Conservancy and its methods of operation to the trustees of the Parsons Trust and so plant a seed which only much later would come to fruition.

But the transfer of the wild and beautiful island, after it took place in October, was not greeted with unanimous joy in Savannah.

Savannah lies, depending upon the tides, from thirty minutes to an hour from Wassaw Island. A city of 200,000 people, Savannah, like nearly every other expanding urban area, is in need of additional recreation space for its citizens. For perhaps as long as the Conservancy and the Parsons Trust had been seeking a way to save the island as a natural area and at the same time meet the obligation the trust held to the several hundred Parsons heirs, the city of Savannah had been looking for a way it could acquire Wassaw Island for itself. According to the Atlanta *Constitution,* quoting Mr. Milmine more than a year ago, "In Savannah, every time an election for mayor approaches, we begin to hear talk: 'Let's do something about Wassaw Island.' "

The specific appeal of the island to the city lies in its 5½-mile stretch of clean ocean beach. The land area of the island is not enough to be of much significance except as a refuge, but with the construction of a causeway and a bridge, the beach could be put within short minutes of the city. Even though erosion is steadily reducing the beach, so much that a fortification at the island's north end, constructed in 1898, is now fifty feet from shore at high tide, beaches suitable for

swimming are at such a premium that for Savannah's officials to look to Wassaw was natural.

To have purchased the island, worth far more than the $1,000,000 the Trust was willing to accept from The Nature Conservancy (estimates of its value have gone as high as $7,000,000), and to have built a causeway and a bridge would have been for the city a very expensive undertaking. Indeed, had the heirs of George Parsons not been cognizant of Wassaw's unique values as a sanctuary and the pricelessness of its marsh, the island would have been beyond the financial capabilities not only of The Nature Conservancy but of any federal agency at this time.

To the layman conservationist, puzzling over the *yes's* and the *no's,* the *why's* and the *why not's,* the *whether's* and the *if's,* Wassaw Island seems to offer classic questions if not classic answers.

The conflicts presented are multifaced and spinningly complex. Private rights versus public rights. Local needs versus national needs. Recreation versus preservation. Pragmatism versus idealism, and, some might add, life versus death. But the conflict that seems to get the loudest airing, a conflict more apparent than real, is that of aesthetic needs versus economic needs, reduced sometimes to the argument "Birds or Man?"

Off the Wassaw beaches in October, the shrimp boats spread their nets and beating into the wind haul in their heavy catches of the little brown shrimp that predominate on the South Atlantic coast. These shrimp are spawned in the salt marshes of the Georgia coast. Like nearly all the life of the coastal seas, the shrimp depend upon the marshes. It is only in this rich environment washed daily by fresh tides of minerals and other nutrients from the oceans, only here in the salt marshes that conditions are suitable for the coming into being of the billions of shell fish and fin fish upon which the human world depends. A 1966 report of the United States Department of the Interior states of the Wassaw marshes: "The abundant harvest of the entire commercial and sport fishery of Georgia's estuarine waters is dependent upon the preservation and well being of this marsh."

No guesswork is required to estimate what would happen eventually to these great expanses of marsh were Wassaw to become a resort. If the marshes were not actually filled and drained — and what is there in our experience to indicate that this would not happen? — even were they not filled, their pollution and destruction would become inevitable. The thin strip of land, less than 2,000 acres including the beach, which would have been called upon to support the Wassaw Beach Resort, could not possibly have done so. The land area would have had to be enlarged.

On October 22, the day after the completion of the Wassaw transaction, the Atlanta *Constitution* headlined the story, "Birdwatchers Gain on Deal." The headline is true enough, but the fact is that today more than ever before in this planet's history, the interests of man and bird happen to coincide.

But even though at last the ecological point of view is finding some representation and understanding among the general population, and what has long been obvious about our environment is becoming clear, even to the very obtuse, the con-

flicts inherent in a case like Wassaw's remain troublesome and, to a degree, painful.

The Fish and Wildlife Service, no more than The Nature Conservancy, enjoys being held up in a city's public press as the villian — dogmatic, bureaucratic, siding with the more fortunate against the less so. But, uncertain of the future as we all admit to being, there still seems to be every good reason to believe that the day will come, and soon, upon which Savannah and Georgia, as well as the rest of the United States, will be grateful that a family, a private agency, and a public agency were able by working together for what each believed to be the public weal to preserve Wassaw Island, its 10,700 acres of marsh and beach and slough and forest.

Of course, all the comment in the Savannah press was not unfavorable. A letter, published in the Savannah *News,* began, "The Nature Conservancy is to be congratulated again. Its purchase from the Wassaw Island Trust of all of Wassaw Island — with the exception of the old Parsons home site — is a major triumph for preservation forces. The organization has the skills, the funds, and the energy to accomplish seemingly impossible tasks . . . we should be extremely grateful to the Parsons family for their century of tender care of Wassaw's natural habitats. The Wassaw Island Trust and its legal adviser, Mr. Charles Ewing, have shown great foresight and have worked very hard to insure that Wassaw would be preserved for future generations of mankind and wildlife. Years of negotiating have resulted in the sale of the island to The Nature Conservancy rather than to groups which would offer more cash but would exploit for personal benefit." And in the Atlanta *Journal* was a congratulatory editorial, which is reprinted in this issue of the *News* on page 20.

The Wassaw beach does, perhaps, remain a puzzle; for any born American knows the innate pain of seeing a resource remain unused. But any born American should know as well the joy of saving, of not using, of preserving for the future what is scarce and precious today and will be even more so tomorrow.

The following is reprinted by permission from the November Audubon. *These are the concluding paragraphs of an article by Roland C. Clement.*

Since the market cannot properly value the marsh, we need to recognize that only joint community action in buying the marsh for preservation can safeguard the interest all of us have in this area's many contributions. A marsh indeed has many values and only a few drawbacks. A few people object to the odor of mud flats (I think it a good, earthy scent if pollution has not interfered), and the upper edge of the marsh may produce mosquitoes if unattended. But the marsh is the essential food factory of all our northern temperate zone estuaries, on which depend about two-thirds of all our marine food and sport fish and shellfish. It is a delightful landscape and is the essential support of many bird species, several of which would be exterminated by the disappearance of marshes. The marshes are thus important biological, scientific, and recreational areas — and they are increasingly valuable open spaces.

It is wrong therefore to say that "economic" considerations cause us to sacrifice these areas; it is individual fiscal considerations that prevail.

Since the problem is not economical, it must be political. Unfortunately, "politics," which should be the art of meeting community needs by rounding out the imperfections of the market system and compromising our conflicts of interest, is too often degraded to a sort of "horse trading" for personal favors and financial advantages among shortsighted men who don't deserve to be called community leaders. We have now come to a basic assumption of democracy: can free people help one another understand their best self-interest and share in governing their community so as to make it a pleasant place to live? We boast of our democracy, but we have not yet learned to make it work. The environmental degradation that threatens to destroy us is all too plain a proof of our failure.

I suggest, therefore, . . . that we stop wringing our hands and insist that capital gains on land be fully taxed and that the federal government . . . stop subsidizing landscape changes that private citizens are now all too well-equipped to make for themselves.

A proper tax on these capital gains will slow down land destruction, lower land prices, and provide enough tax income to enable communities and other governmental units to buy sensitive areas and give them the protection they must have if they are to continue making life livable on this planet.

ART FOR THE MOUNTAIN

by T. HALSEY MELONE

"Art for the Mountain," the ambitious fund raising extravaganza devised by New York's Clausland Mountain Project Committee, in addition to clearing several thousand dollars for the Rockland County acquisition, has resulted in one of the most successful publicity campaigns of any recent regional Conservancy activity.

The public auction of some sixty oil paintings, watercolors, drawings, and pieces of sculpture, held on the evening of October 2 at Manhattan's distinguished Parke-Bernet Galleries, was for several prior weeks a topic of lively attention in the news media, culminating in a gracious editorial in the New York *Times*. Earlier, a cocktail party-preview of the exhibition, described in Committee minutes as "the fun affair" of the campaign, drew a crowd of potential buyers that was liberally spiced with celebrities and attracted further press comment.

From the historical importance of several works that were offered for sale, to the social, artistic, and political prominence of the auction's list of sponsors, the event was an example of impressive public relations energy and imagination.

"Art for the Mountain" began as one of a host of money raising proposals put forth by a committee already tested in a two-year struggle to preserve the 500 unspoiled acres on the west bank of the Hudson River, only ten miles from New York City. Eventually, federal and state funds had been appropriated, augmented by a substantial private contribution; now the "Save the Mountain" citizen's group was commencing (as it presently continues) to repay The Nature Conservancy's loan of $237,500, the key ingredient in the total transaction. Virtually every conceivable project was considered, from lotteries and talent programs to a "caboose auction" of classic railroad cars. (These were ultimately appraised as a bit too classic in condition to be worth much under the auctioneer's hammer.)

One committee member, Alan Gussow of Congers, New York, who is both an ardent conservationist and a professional painter, advocated the enlistment of Rockland County's many artist residents, and in time there appeared among the fund raisers' notes a somewhat frenzied postcript that "a guy named Al" was reporting the Parke-Bernet's Galleries available for a benefit exhibition. The guy named Al was Alfred Bristol, a member of the Parke-Bernet staff and a long-time resident of Tappan, New York, near Clausland Mountain.

Swiftly recruited as General Chairman of the event, Bristol was presently associated with an enthusiastic Exhibition Committee, chaired by Mrs. George P. Voss. Accepting honorary co-chairmanships were Mrs. Niles M. Davies, Mrs. Rebekah Harkness, Miss Helen Hayes, and Laurance S. Rockefeller. Then Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller agreed to serve as Honorary Chairman, and the event acquired a panache beyond any early anticipation.

As long as men have lived in the Hudson River Valley, they have been moved to write songs, poems, plays, and stories about it, and to draw and paint it. For generations, Rockland County has been a homestead to authors, actors, and musicians, as well as painters and sculptors. Yet, happily, there has never been a specific "colony," no single locality where, as Alan Gussow has written, "one could go and *look* at the artists."

"The struggle to preserve Clausland Mountain," Gussow stated in the foreward to the exhibition's catalogue, "helps explain this continuing ability of Rockland County to draw artists to live within its borders. The citizens . . . care about the environment . . . they deeply believe that the quality of a place has a profound effect on the people who live there."

In addition to the contemporary works, the gifts of oils and sketches by Irving Quidor (1801-81), Jasper Cropsey (1823-1900), and Arthur B. Davies (1862-1928), helped bring historical significance to the show. Quidor was Washington Irving's first illustrator, while Davies is credited with bringing modern art to America, when he organized the famous Armory Show in New York before World War I, shocking his countrymen with Duchamps' *Nude Descending a Staircase.*

As the *Times* remarked in its editorial, " . . . because some concerned citizens of Rockland County banded together to keep Clausland Mountain a place of freedom and natural beauty . . . artists a hundred years from now will be able to paint some of the same scenes that entranced the Hudson River school a century ago."

"More than an exhibition," concluded the *Times,* "this is an example of what the people of an enlightened community can do to save its natural heritage for all time."

A TAXONOMY OF TROUBLES

Legal Tools in Defense of Natural Areas

by GREGORY ARCHBALD

As a lawyer, I am aware of a wide range of legal tools which can be used to further the aims of The Nature Conservancy and to defend the accomplishments that we have already marked. The Nature Conservancy has been fortunate in the past to remain free of extensive problems in connection with its lands and I hope that it shall always remain so.

Nevertheless, it is a fine thing to be prepared for a rainy day. I think it is reasonable to expect that The Nature Conservancy surely *will* have more rainy days in the future than it has in the past. Population pressures mounting in the vicinity of our preserves will bring increased land use pressures, including demands of people to use the preserves. These pressures will almost inevitably spell a certain amount of trouble for The Nature Conservancy. The probability of troubles will also be statistically increased because of the increasing absolute number of preserves which TNC, through its growth, will have to its credit. These are the troubles of success and we may welcome them with a certain degree of stoicism. Yet, I believe it is completely essential that TNC's membership be well prepared to meet those troubles when — and even before — they come.

With the "Taxonomy of Troubles" chart (see pages 12-13) I hope to provide you with a basic knowledge of some of the powerful legal tools which are available in the defense of natural areas. I would hastily point out, however, that the law is only one of the tools available. The subtle, but powerful, arts of personal persuasion, social action, "politics," and many others can be used along with the legal tools I mention here. Many times they should be used *instead* of legal tools. They not only may be more effective but, by avoiding legal fees, they will help keep the budget balanced.

But the law is a very powerful tool when used at the right time and place. The law plays a heavily useful role in *preventing* troubles, through checking all legal aspects of contemplated transactions. That is why TNC has legal support in its national office, and attorneys who work with the regional offices. In the day-to-day business of the Conservancy, keeping *out* of trouble through use of preventive law is one of the most useful legal tools it has. Yet, use of this tool most often comes in stages of *negotiation* and *contracting* for purchase of lands, and in the preparation of documents. These steps are of an intricate, day-to-day nature as projects pass through the screening process. The individual member or chapter is not likely to be involved closely in the detail work at these stages and, for this reason, I have omitted discussion of them.

Where the chapters and membership have an all important role is in the defense of areas for which all the preliminary legal hurdles have been cleared and the acquisition is virtually complete. There is no overemphasizing this role, because playing it well or poorly can make the difference between robust success and dismal ineffectiveness for The Nature Conservancy. To play the role well, the membership must not only be eternally watchful; it must know (1) what to be watchful for and (2) how to act swiftly and competently when it spots trouble.

Knowing "*what* to look for" might not sound at first to be particularly difficult. If someone is chewing up your preserve with a motorcycle, the problem is pretty easy to spot! Yet, I think it is very important to realize that there are many more subtle problems, harder to cure and more potentially ruinous. A membership trained to recognize these more subtle problems (and to act keenly on them) will be a group of land defenders rendering a truly "professional" quality of service, and TNC's outlook for continued success will be justifiably optimistic.

A short guide to assessing those more subtle problems is simply to think always of four general categories into which troubles may fall and then to be eternally watchful for specific troubles which might occur in these categories. The four general categories of troubles are: (1) Physical, (2) Legal, (3) Financial, and (4) Political. *Physical* problems obviously are most easily seen (although their cure may be as challenging as any other problem). *Legal* ones are much more subtle but every bit as real. A fence or sign may stop trespassers, but what do you do when someone claims your legal right of access to the prop-

erty is faulty or that his boundary line is not where you think it is? *Financial* troubles can be even worse because not only might the particular project be lost but, if bad enough, financial problems can potentially sap the vitality of the Conservancy as a whole. Consider the problems caused by failure to obtain tax exemption, by excessive management problems, and by the distant but real possibility that if someone is injured severely on a TNC preserve a large court judgment might not be entirely covered by TNC's insurance. Finally, political troubles can cut across all categories. Opposition to a project by vocal members of the community or by a particular governmental agency can quickly pry open Pandora's Box. The possibilities here are almost endless if you use a broad definition of the word *political.*

Now finally we get to the chart. If you think about the problems listed down its left-hand column, you will see they fit into one or more of the four general categories I have mentioned. Many more troubles are possible than the ones I have listed, but I am generally confining myself to problems which can be solved by legal action or the threat of it.

I have tried to set up this chart to be basically self-explanatory, realistic and useful. I hope it will be useful in helping you to assess troubles and, more important, in leading you to doing the right thing about them. I believe the chart can also be helpful as a "sales tool" in describing to a prospective donor of land all of the things TNC can do to protect it for him.

The chart is broken into two main divisions. The first deals with lands which are owned by The Nature Conservancy and the second with lands which the Conservancy once owned but has transferred to another agency such as the Federal Government.

Only the caption above the last three columns, "Sources of Help," should need any explanation. By the column headed "Staff Attorney," I mean either the attorney on the national staff or an attorney associated with a regional office either as an employee or as an independent attorney who occasionally does work for the regional office. In any case, when an "x" mark appears in this column, the first point of inquiry by a member to reach a staff attorney would be through the regional office.

The column headed "Chapter Attorney" may startle some chapter members since many do not have an attorney. I believe it is highly important, however, that each chapter eventually should have associated with it an attorney who will serve to advise it on these matters. Most chapters should be able to find a competent attorney in the community who would handle selected legal problems on a volunteer basis. It may take quite a concerted search, but public-spirited attorneys are usually in a greater supply than the layman supposes.

The chapter attorney can play a key role in the defense of the problems I have outlined here. In almost every case he should be consulted first, and sometimes it will not be necessary to go any farther than to him. For example, a chapter attorney should be able to handle a personal trespass problem. In other cases, he will play a key role in acting as a coordinating person between the chapter and The Nature Conservancy staff. Lawyers really do have a language of their own, and it will be found that a chapter attorney can communicate much more quickly, directly and effectively with an attorney on the national or regional staff than can a person not trained in the law. Furthermore, since the law applicable to the problem is the law of the state where the land is located, in many cases there will be a need for special knowledge of that state's law in order to approach intelligently the problem. If, for example, a case involving land in Colorado requires consultation with an attorney through the San Francisco regional office, one of the first things the San Francisco attorney will want to know about is the law of Colorado. An attorney associated with the chapter there should be available for these questions, and to take appropriate local action.

Finally, in the column marked "Other" there are some cryptic suggestions for possible additional sources of help. One of the most interesting is the use of regulatory agencies and their broad administrative powers. In our complex society, regulatory agencies of state and federal government are becoming more and more abundant and in many cases their powers are surprisingly strong. If the regulatory agency is not under the thumb of the industry being regulated (something which should always be checked!), it may be the most effective answer to a problem.

Now, hitting some of the highlights under specific problems, I think most of the problems concerning direct physical interference are self-explanatory in the chart. Indirect physical interference is a more complicated category, however. The basic situation is that some activity taking place entirely off the property (like nearby logging) nonetheless is having the effect of damaging the use and enjoyment of the property. The laws applicable to these situations are changing very

LEGAL TOOLS IN DEFENSE OF NATURAL AREAS

PROBLEM	RELEVANT LAWS, COMMENTS	SOURCES OF HELP		
		CHAPTER ATTORNEY	STAFF ATTORNEY	OTHER
LAND OWNED BY THE NATURE CONSERVANCY				
DIRECT PHYSICAL INTERFERENCE				
Personal Trespass	State criminal laws, local ordinances, civil law of trespass.	X		Sheriff
Trespass by Physical Objects and Activities (fences, bulldozing, logging, etc.)	Same as above. Also, rules of a regulatory agency may apply (e.g. forest practices board, agencies regulating contractors & builders). Possible suit for injunctive relief.	X		Sheriff, Regulatory Agency
Intentional Property Damage (vandalism, destruction of trees, etc.)	Suit for compensatory and exemplary damages. Laws related to trespass, above. *Note:* need for careful documentation of facts.	X	X	Sheriff
Accidental Property Damage (fire, damage by vehicles, etc.)	Suit for compensatory damages. Possible coverage by TNC insurance. Notice of accident must be made immediately to TNC to meet insurance requirements.	X	X	
Illegal Hunting	Same as trespass. Fish & game agency regulations. Possible federal and state criminal action *re* certain species.	X		Game Warden
Squatters & Adverse Possession	Civil laws. Attorney should be consulted for advice on how much force can be used, wording of signs, legal effects.	X		
INDIRECT PHYSICAL INTERFERENCE				
Disturbance by Outside Activities (quarrying, crop dusting, industrial fumes, low flying aircraft, etc.)	Law of "nuisance." Suit for property damage and/or injunctive relief. Rules of regulatory agencies may apply (e.g. air pollution control district). Possible suit to compel agency to enforce regulations.	X	X	Regulatory Agency, (Social Action)
Water Pollution	Same as above.	X	X	(same)
Diversion of Natural Waters	Same as above. Also, laws of "water rights" or riparian ownership.	X	X	(same)
ADVERSE EXERCISE OF RIGHTS IN THE LAND BY OTHERS				
Outstanding Mineral Rights	Oil and mineral rights law. *Note:* requires expert in this field of law. Solution in tactical moves may be more possible than legal moves.	X	X	(Social Action)
Easements Asserted (right of way across land, utility corridors, question re access to property)	Civil property laws.	X	X	(Social Action)
Reverter Clause Violation (claimed by grantor to TNC)	Civil property laws. Possible suit for a "declaratory judgment" to clarify right of reverter.	X	X	

Condemnation (for roads, public facilities, utilities, etc.)	Condemnation law. Usually best to retain condemnation lawyer if suit is to be defended. Tactical moves may offer more hope than legal moves (e.g. Kent Island).	X	X	(Social Action)
PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION				
Problem in Obtaining County or State Real Property Tax Exemption	Local taxation laws and procedures. Payment under protest and suit to compel exemption (e.g. NCCRP).	X	X	
PROBLEMS ARISING FROM AUTHORIZED USE OF TNC LAND				
Liability for personal injuries (falling objects, trip and fall by guests, snake bite, auto accident on outing, etc.)	Best cure is prevention! If injured person makes claim or sues TNC, immediate notification to TNC is required for insurance and defensive purposes. Accident should not be discussed by TNC witnesses or representatives until attorney is consulted.	X	X	
Liability for Property Damage (fire started by TNC agents, damage by TNC vehicles, etc.)	Same as above. If new and unusual activity is planned, first check insurance consequences with TNC regional office.	X	X	
Repairs and Improvements (fences, roads, structures)	If large, contractual and labor law points must be handled through regional office.	X	X	
Health and Safety Regulations (e.g. fire prevention, sanitation)	Local and state provisions.	X		
Resident Caretakers	Legal relationship to TNC may have important consequences. See regional office.	X	X	
LAND TRANSFERRED TO ANOTHER AGENCY				
PROBLEMS OF TRANSFER				
Acceptance of Conditions by Agency Concerned	Certain legal rules may prevent placing excessive restrictions in the Deed. Practical policy limitations may make Agency reluctant to accept certain legal restrictions, but Agency's desire for land creates setting for negotiating suitable conditions.		X	(Basically a matter of negotiation & drafting)
PROBLEMS AFTER TRANSFER				
After Transfer with Reverter (violation by Agency of conditions upon use)	Reverter clause in Deed puts conditions on use by Agency, violation of which may result in return of land to TNC. "Right of Reverter" in TNC is a specific interest in the land, giving TNC standing to sue for protection in certain cases.		X	(Social Action)
After Transfer without Reverter	By outright transfer TNC loses all legal interest in the land and direct standing to sue. Protection by citizen "watchdog" role only.		X	(Social Action)

rapidly and some of the most interesting developments are to be found here. These developments are in large part a direct result of the tensions of urbanization and they have resulted in the availability of many more remedies to land owners and citizens than were previously available in the law.

Under "Adverse Exercise of Rights in the Land by Others" I have in mind some of the legal problems of the four-part guide mentioned earlier. Of particular interest here, are problems associated with reverter clauses.

For those of you not familiar with this phrase, a reverter clause in a deed of land is a clause wherein the former owner places conditions on the use of that land by the person acquiring the land. In many of the gift deeds which The Nature Conservancy receives, the donors place certain conditions on the Conservancy for the use of the land they have given. Likewise, when the Conservancy conveys land to a governmental agency, it often retains a reverter in its deed in order to assure that the governmental agency will live up to the purposes of the grant. The advantage of the reverter is that its holder can cause the land, or the affected portion of it, to "revert" to him if the party using the land does not live up to the conditions.

The Nature Conservancy can boast of an overwhelming number of satisfied donors. Yet, it is possible that for some reason a donor who has kept a reverter clause in his gift deed to TNC could contend that TNC was, or was not, doing something spelled out in the reverter. The member to which this owner complains should calmly try to understand the donor's contentions and then relay them immediately to the chapter attorney, since the question of interpreting the reverter clause becomes a central issue. Interpretation clarified, diplomacy and tact should usually be able to clear the problem.

When the Conservancy itself holds the reverter, an entirely different picture is presented. I'll mention that in a moment.

When it comes to condemnation, I am amazed at the number of people who appear to believe that property of The Nature Conservancy cannot be condemned. The general rule of law, however, is that TNC stands in no better position than any other private property owner in the face of condemnation by a governmental agency. The Conservancy is in a superior tactical and "moral" position to other private landowners, though, because it can bring great pressures through social action on the governmental agency to force abandonment of its plans.

Social action was taken successfully in connection with threatened freeway condemnation of our Buena Vista Lagoon property near San Diego, California. In an even more spectacular maneuver, The Nature Conservancy defeated a harbor condemnation in the Bolinas Lagoon of Marin County, California, by purchasing Kent Island and conveying it to the County as a natural preserve. The underlying legal motivation was to place the land in another public agency, who under the law would be superior to that of the harbor district and could not be condemned by the latter.

Refusal of a county to grant *real property tax exemption* has created a number of problems in the past for The Nature Conservancy. In California, the County of Mendocino has refused to exempt the Conservancy's Northern California Coast Range Preserve from property taxes. Since the annual bill for taxes is in the neighborhood of $9,000, the drain on the Conservancy is considerable. The Conservancy has filed suit against the County of Mendocino to compel the assessor to grant the tax exemption.

Looking now at the next major heading on the chart, problems associated with *authorized use* of Nature Conservancy land are among the most likely to occur and also among the most potentially damaging. You will notice by the comments on the chart that insurance considerations are very important in this area. Surely, careful sidestepping of catastrophes in the personal injury and property damage categories should be polished to a fine art. The duty of care owed to other persons by a land owner (The Nature Conservancy) in many states is quite high and the trend of the law is to make it higher. This being the case, it is important to identify known hazards on any property and to either remove them or give visitors adequate and careful warning to avoid them.

Finally, under the heading "Land Transferred to Another Agency" we encounter one of the finest tools with which The Nature Conservancy can work. This is the reverter clause, mentioned earlier. In this case The Nature Conservancy holds the right of reverter, having drafted it into the deed to the governmental agency. If there is a threatened violation of the conditions in the reverter clause, the Conservancy can swing into action to protect the property.

The case of the Forest of Nisene Marks near Santa Cruz, California, is directly in point. This beautiful 9,700-acre preserve on the forested slopes of the coast range was transferred to The Nature Conservancy by the Marks Family on a

number of careful understandings. The property was then transferred to the State of California as a State Park and The Nature Conservancy retained a reverter clause in the deed which insured that the desires of the Marks Family would be honored. Not long after the transfer was made, a local agency threatened to put a dam on a stream just below the property boundary which would have backed water far into the preserve. The effect on the park would definitely have been contrary to the donor's wishes and The Nature Conservancy was able to bring enough pressure that the proper actions were taken to thwart the plans for the dam.

Having covered about 20 fields of law and 300 years of legal tradition in these few paragraphs, I will now end my remarks. If you immediately forget all that I have said, I will not really be upset. By its nature, this is very complicated material and it can't very well be taken in concentrated form. Yet, I think the chart can guide you to a general understanding of most of the applicable fields of law and the problems to which they relate.

WILLIAM CANINE

A pecan tree nearly 100 feet high grows in the bottomlands along Bird Creek in the new Redbud Valley Preserve near Tulsa, Oklahoma. This 85-acre area is being purchased through a loan by The Nature Conservancy and will be used primarily by the University of Tulsa as a research area. "But," says Dr. Harriet Barclay, Project Chairman, "this is a real community project, and the sanctuary will be available to anyone who will not destroy it." Besides the river bottom shown in the photograph, the sanctuary includes prairie, wooded hillsides, cliffs and caves, in all a remarkable variety of habitats to be represented on a tract no larger than this one is.

CORRESPONDENCE

This Department is most gratified at the working arrangements that have been developed with The Nature Conservancy that have made possible the succession of cooperative endeavors culminating in the gift of Wassaw Island. We trust that the record of cooperation which we have enjoyed thus far may be used as the foundation for an expansion of similar activities in the future. It would be impossible to exaggerate the long-term significance of placing wild areas typified by Wassaw Island, St. Vincent Island, and the Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuges in the hands of the government for the enhancement of the welfare of present and future generations of American citizens.

Russell E. Train
Undersecretary of the Interior

A couple of years ago, the American Orchid Society endorsed the policy of conserving orchid species. Their committee on conservation has one very important project: surveying the native orchids of the United States. They wish to locate areas where native orchids are already protected and to get others into protected areas.

Dr. Carlyle A. Luer of 3222 Old Oak Drive, Sarasota, Florida 33579, a member of this committee has begun a series of books on orchids, with colored plates to illustrate them. His first book, soon to be published by the New York Botanical Garden, will be on Florida orchids.

Under protection of The Nature Conservancy are no doubt many areas in which native orchids can be found. Since our committee would like to know more about these areas, would those who can give us information write either Dr. Luer or to me? If, in addition, you know of other areas that have orchids, and the environment seems to be worth protecting, please let us know.

It has been reported to us that an area in Wisconsin under TNC protection has at least eight species of orchids. Similarly we have heard that a newly acquired area in Arizona has some unusual native orchids. We would be interested in the particulars. Although not yet under Conservancy protection, areas in the Santa Cruz Mountains in California and on the Michigan peninsula have been reported.

Usually one does not publicize orchid habitat, for the public attempts to take the plants home, little knowing they do not transplant well. It is the environment that must be saved; hence a drive for the protection of such areas is desirable. In the tropics, orchids may be moved from one area to another similar area in a reserve, but in the temperate zones the problem is far more difficult.

The Everglades National Park in Florida was an area well adapted to the preservation of native orchids, but collectors have depleted the area of some species. Other areas, not so large and more easily protected, could be more useful for the purpose of habitat protection. I understand efforts are being made to protect one such area [Fuchs Hammock.]

Any help the members of TNC can give us would be most welcome. When valuable areas are located, we should try to protect them. Remember it is the environment as well as the orchids themselves we must consider, for orchids represent only a part of the situation and must have the protection of other plants. Thanks for your help.

W. W. G. Moir
P.O. Box 2298
Honolulu, Hawaii

Thank you for acknowledging my aunt's contribution to the Conservancy in our name "by way of being a wedding gift."

Our idea might interest you. We asked all our friends and relatives *not* to give us wedding presents. We told them that if they really wanted to please us to make a donation to a peace or conservation group. In our name, then, contributions have been made to The Nature Conservancy, Save the Redwoods, Massachusetts Audubon, the Sierra Club and others. One friend in the Berkshires wrote, "I can't get to the wedding, but I'll plant a tree."

Isn't that better than table lighters and silver candle snuffers?

Alan Winslow
Auburndale, Massachusetts

Dark green and white shoulder patches are available from the National Office for one dollar each. Chapters may order in lots of 25 at $.80 each. The cloth shoulder patches, approximately 2½ inches by 4½ inches show a dark green Conservancy emblem with the organization's name embroidered on it. They are attractive emblems for field jackets.

MIDWEST OFFICE MOVES

At the end of December, the Midwest Regional Office moved from its old quarters in Evanston, Illinois, to Minneapolis, Minnesota. The address in Minneapolis is 329 West 15th Street, Park Terrace Building, 55403. The Midwest Office has been in Evanston since it was established in 1966. Its first director was John Humke, and director since 1968 has been Winston "Bud" Elkins. Newly appointed representative is David Flack.

KAB AWARD TO CONSERVANCY

The Nature Conservancy is one of eight conservation groups to receive special awards in 1969 from Keep America Beautiful. The awards were made for "outstanding achievement in litter-prevention." Thomas W. Richards, president, accepted the award at KAB's Annual Meeting in New York City on November 18. More than 500 persons attended the event. Keep America Beautiful, organized in 1953 by a group of business and civic leaders, provides counseling assistance and litter-prevention materials to thousands of groups and communities throughout the country, in addition to its national advertising campaign sponsored by The Advertising Council.

PROJECT WARN

An unusual program to save threatened East African wildlife — particularly the great cats — has been inaugurated by Friends of Africa in America, a non-profit organization. An educational program will be conducted at the community level to show that protective measures collapse when affluent women create a market for luxury products from the skins of animals. Poachers can easily circumvent regulations and no furrier can guarantee that any coat is not made from illegally taken skins. This message will be movingly delivered through pictures and documentation by first-hand observers.

Through the program, Project WARN, (Women Against the Ravishment of Nature), 15-20 professional women travel to East Africa at their own expense to photograph and document the plight of these endangered species. They will be accompanied by a conservationist and speak to game wardens and government officials. They will begin local presentations in February.

A second expedition — again using the vehicle of photography — will consist of about 20 students departing from New York City July 30 and returning August 20. Students will pay their own expenses.

For further information contact Friends of Africa in America, 330 South Broadway, Tarrytown, New York 10591.

1969 ANNUAL REPORT AVAILABLE

Copies of The Nature Conservancy's 1969 Annual Report are available to members upon request from the National Office. The 16-page report contains the Conservancy's financial statement as well as a list of preserves acquired during the fiscal year, brief descriptions of notable projects and scientific research. There is no charge for the report.

"TEACH-IN"

Wisconsin Senator Gaylord Nelson is organizing a national "teach-in" to be held this spring on college campuses across the nation on "the crisis of the environment."

Plans call for a special day with normal campus activitites set aside for student-planned symposiums, convocations, panel discussions and outdoor rallies.

Persons wishing to participate may contact Senator Gaylord Nelson, 404 Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510.

AVS SPEAKERS BUREAU

A Speaker's Bureau, created by the Association for Voluntary Sterilization (AVS), provides speakers to discuss the relation of population control to conservation. Speakers are available to interested conservation groups upon request. Interested persons should contact AVS, 14 West 40th Street, New York, New York 10018.

CHAIRMEN AND SECRETARIES OF THE CHAPTERS

(Chairmen are listed first, then secretaries)

Arkansas Chapter
S. C. Dellinger, 524 Gray St., Fayetteville
Mrs. Harry R. McPherson, Rte. 8, Fayetteville

Southern California Chapter
Mrs. Elna Bakker, 450 W. Avenue 43, Los Angeles
Mrs. Kenneth W. Kinucan, 729 W. Allegria, Sierra Madre

Tejon (Calif.) Sub-Chapter
Jack M. Zaninovich, Rte. 2, Box 716, Delano
Irma Weill, 2915 Sunset Ave., Bakersfield

Monterey Bay (Calif.) Chapter
John McDaniel, Rte. 1, Box 163, Carmel
Miss Beatrice Howitt, 1006 Benita Ave., Pacific Grove

Northern California Chapter
Dr. Howard Cogswell, 1548 East Ave., Hayward
Mrs. Virginia David, 1873 Stockton St., San Francisco

Colorado Chapter
William T. Garrett, Box 889, Boulder
Miss Nancy Hurley, 1875 S. Adams St., Denver

Connecticut Chapter
G. W. DeSousa, 21 Silver Brook Rd., Westport
Mrs. Lucie Strayer, Lordship Rd., Stratford

Glastonbury Sub-Chapter
Ross C. Powell, Jr., 33 Hickory Dr., So. Glastonbury
Mrs. Clyde S. Brooks, 41 Baldwin Ln., Glastonbury

Florida Chapter
Mrs. Joseph Niswonger, 305 W. Beacon Rd., Lakeland
Mrs. T. K. Young, 17300 S.W. 272 St., Homestead

Idaho Chapter
Stanley Burns, 1522 Santa Maria Dr., Boise
Franklin Jones, Boise Printing Co., 1304 Eastman, Boise

Illinois Chapter
Cyrus Mark, 1900 Dempster St., Evanston
Dr. Margery C. Carlson, 2308 Hartzell St., Evanston

Indiana Chapter
Richard V. Molby, 911 Meadow Ln., Bloomington
Mrs. Martha H. Mosier, 490 W. Washington St., Martinsville

Iowa Chapter
Dr. Myrle M. Burk, R.R. 2, Waterloo
Mrs. Joan Tucker, 1022 Hudson Ave., Iowa City

Kentucky Chapter
Dr. Roger Barbour, Univ. of Kentucky, Lexington
Willard N. Gray, La Center

Maine Chapter
Warren Delano, Kittery Point
Miss Lois M. Thurston, R.R. 3, Wiscasset

Minnesota Chapter
Edmund C. Bray, 452 Otis Ave., St. Paul
Mrs. Neill Riley, 908 E. Shady Ln., Wayzata

Missouri Chapter
Robert Doerr, 39 McFarland Dr., Rolla
Mrs. D. S. Millman, 1005 W. 67th, Kansas City

New Hampshire Chapter
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Mrs. John F. McCabe, Antrim

Central New York Chapter
Frank L. Eldridge, P.O. Box 175, Ithaca
Mrs. E. A. Lutz, R.R. 3, Trumansburg

Eastern New York Chapter
Carl J. George, Union College, Schenectady
John H. Blackburn, Selkirk
Chapter Office, 135 Western Ave., Albany

Long Island Chapter
John T. Ricks, East Gate Rd., RD3, Huntington
William Larrabee, 255-37 Upland Rd., Great Neck

Western New York Chapter
N. Robert Wilson, 4574 Harlem Rd., Snyder
Miss Marie Wendling, 87 Garrison Rd., Williamsville

Ohio Chapter
E. J. Koestner, 2629 Ridge Ave., Dayton
Miss Mary E. Caldwell, 634 Third Nat'l Bank Building, Dayton

Oregon Chapter
Dr. Stanton Cook, Univ. of Oregon, Eugene
Mrs. Frances Newsom, 708 E. 11th, Eugene

South Dakota Chapter
George Jonkel, 1722 Kansas S.E., Huron
Dr. David J. Holden, S. D. State Univ., Brookings

Texas Chapter
Richard Shannon, 3804 Avenue H, Austin
Ralph D. Churchill, 2020 Live Oak, Dallas

Vermont Chapter
Hubert W. Vogelmann, Jericho
Perry H. Merrill, 200 Elm St., Montpelier

Virginia Chapter
Robert J. Watson, 2636 Marcey Rd., Arlington
Miss Elizabeth Sprague, Sweet Briar College, Sweet Briar

Washington Chapter
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Mrs. Tam Deering, 4927 75th Ave., N.E., Marysville

Inland Empire (Wash.) Chapter
Dr. George E. Hudson, Rte. 1, Box 75, Pullman
Miss Suzanne Boehme, 1208 East E, Moscow

West Virginia Chapter
Charles H. Baer, Rte. 5, Box 57, Morgantown
Mrs. A. Kyle Bush, 5 Bush Ave., Philippi

Wisconsin Chapter
Paul J. Olson, 4122 Mineral Point Rd., Madison
Mrs. Emily H. Earley, 2817 Sylvan Ave., Madison

JOB AT LACAWAC

For someone — or a couple — looking for "a quiet but beautiful environment, involvement with interesting people and a worthwhile program," the Lacawac Sanctuary at Lake Ariel, Pennsylvania, is seeking someone to live there on the grounds and oversee the preserve. "We offer the use of the little 'Ice House' cottage, which is very comfortable. We cannot offer a salary. It would be suitable for someone taking an early retirement or an artist or a writer." For further information, write Arthur Watres, The Lacawac Sanctuary, RD #1, Lake Ariel, Pennsylvania 18436.

The twenty-first Annual Conference of The Nature Conservancy will be held in 1970 at Madison, Wisconsin. Dates of the conference are the last Friday and Saturday in August, the 28th-29th. For the first time, the Conference will be returning to a city in which it was previously held. In 1953, the Conservancy's fourth Conference was held in Madison. The Wisconsin Chapter, working with the National Office and the Midwest Regional Office, has begun formulating plans for the conference. Ideas from members will be welcomed.

BOOKS

NATURE SLEUTHS: Protectors of Our Wildlife, by J. J. McCoy. *Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Company (1969) $4.95; 160 pp., illustrated by Noel Sickles.*

Young readers with an interest in wildlife will enjoy this account of the circumstances under which conservation officers must work to enforce game and poaching laws. Interwoven throughout the book are basic descriptions of the importance of a balanced ecology and the contribution various species make to that balance. The portrayal of the plight of alligators, ducks and geese, hawks and various species of fish — particularly salmon — are movingly and completely drawn. Of particular interest to parents is Mr. McCoy's emphasis on individual responsibility in obeying game and fish regulations as well as the history and importance of these laws. A discussion of duck banding, tracking grizzlies and the importance of habitat is included in the section on wildlife management. A glossary of unfamiliar terms is provided.

M. J. C.

THE WARBLERS OF NORTH AMERICA, by Frank M. Chapman. *Dover Publications, Inc. (1968) $3.00; 307 pp., illustrated, 24 color plates.*

An unaltered republication of a well-known work first published in 1917. According to Dean Amadon of the American Museum of Natural History, who supplies a new foreward to the book, "More recent books on warblers exist, but the copiously quoted notes of Chapman's collaborators give his volume a lasting charm and value."

EXPLORING OUR NATIONAL PARKS AND MONUMENTS, by Devereux Butcher. *Houghton Miffilin Company (1969) $8.95; 370 pp., illustrated.*

Here is the sixth edition of a book long established as a standard work on this country's national parks and monuments. Four new national parks and three new national monuments are included in this edition, altogether 32 national parks and 34 national monuments. As the title indicates, the book goes beyond description of the parks to tell how they may be reached, where to stay and what to do while there and how to do it.

NEWSPAPER COMMENT

The attempt to preserve Cumberland Island for posterity in its natural state may or may not succeed . . .

Cumberland is desirable and Cumberland is desired. Conservationists want to keep it as it is, free of autos and motels and beer cans and beach erosion. There is an attempt to incorporate it into the National Seashore, but, alas, these are hard times in Washington and no purchase money is in sight.

If Cumberland should go down the drain with a causeway and a strip of fast food and motel franchises, there are other places worthy of preservation. There are other Georgia coastal islands, some of which are as wild as Cumberland, although not as big and without the magnificent stretch of beach and wonderful dunes. Sapelo, for instance, is safe for posterity, and now wild Wassaw has joined the ranks of the saved . . .

The purchase of Wassaw, up the line from Sapelo and down the coast from Savannah, was announced last week. The buyer was The Nature Conservancy, which deeded the property to the federals for a wildlife refuge and observation post. It was sold by the heirs of George Parsons of Boston who bought the island before the turn of the century.

The report of the transaction said the Parsons heirs sold for much less than the island's worth in order to keep the property wild and undeveloped and the deed stipulated that no bridges were to be built connecting the island with the mainland.

The island is smaller than Cumberland but conservationists are delighted with its primitive state. There is an untouched stand of slash pine, 11,000 acres of marsh and high land and an abundance of living things. Visitors are limited to scientific observors so campers need not apply.

After generations of exploitation of natural resources it is a pleasure to report and comment upon each reversal of the old trend. Georgia is beautiful, but it has been plowed and axed beyond recognition in its history, and its watercourses polluted and silted up. Now that silviculture has replaced row crops, the land is coming back with some of its old beauty.

The plow has been succeeded by the bulldozer, however. The bulldozer, often under the direction of former plowboys has become the new enemy of natural beauty and silt free streams. The urban areas have become great poisoners of land, air and water, and until the public begins to react a little more strongly against this, we're in danger of making our environment unlivable.

We no longer have water to waste, space to spare and air to burn. The state is growing and the wasteful habits we acquired as a lightly populated agricultural state must be changed.

The change is in sight as the growing interest in conservation shows. The change is in sight, for once upon a time stream and air pollution were considered the constitutional rights of every red-blooded businessman, and now pollution control has become prime public relations.

It would be great if we could save Cumberland, and there's an outside chance Cumberland may be kept more or less as it is. In the meanwhile Cumberland's fate notwithstanding, let us give thanks for the salvation of Sapelo and Wassaw and Blackbeard, too, and hope there will be more.

Atlanta *Journal*

Thanks to the good offices of a quiet outfit called Nature Conservancy, a hidden almost unknown area of great scenic beauty in the Upper Peninsula is safely tucked away for public ownership.

Last November, the Conservancy put up $12,000 to buy 556 key acres, including the Rock River Canyon, a few miles north of Chatham. The land is being held for the U.S. Forest Service which expects to come up with the money through congressional appropriation in a year or so to buy the key parcel and 360 more acres along the canyon to create a new recreational and scenic area.

Ray Voss, of Grand Rapids, and I met John Kuyava, district ranger of the Hiawatha National Forest, at Chatham to have a look at this treasure, and it's a good thing we did. We would never have found it on our own . . .

Standing on the edge, looking down into a wilderness of hardwoods which have never seen the lumberman's crosscut saw, we realized we were looking at a tiny scrap of Michigan which still looks as it did before the white man came.

The canyon, averaging 200 feet deep and a quarter mile wide, was cut through a deep sandstone deposit by the Rock River as it fought its way over the millenia to Lake Superior, about five miles to the north.

The marks of the age-long struggle are evident all along the sandstone walls of the canyon. There are some 76 caverns, worn into the walls at times

when the river swept into softer rock. Dozens of varying water levels can be traced on the walls by the stratified shelves.

At the bottom runs the crystal clear river, and, being so inaccessible, it is, not surprisingly, teeming with native brook trout . . .

Present plans are to leave the canyon as much alone as possible . . . Hiking trails to scenic overlooks and down into the canyon are the only developments planned in the canyon area itself.

Detroit *News*

The crunchy carpet of brittle leaves and twigs rustled underfoot. The trees stretched away deep into an infinity of pine and poplar, letting loose an autumn blizzard of gold and scarlet in a November wind that whispered of winter. The creek chuckled quietly as it slipped over stones and settled in a little pool that mirrored memories of its days as an "ol' swimmin' hole." And only a hundred paces away business traffic whizzed by on Wade Avenue.

Nestled in the heart of town, Raleigh's first nature park, a gift to the city from Miss Cicely Browne, is an oasis of open woodland. The four-acre tract at Wade Avenue and Dixie Trail was donated by Miss Browne to The Nature Conservancy, a Washington-based conservation group. They, in turn, transferred it to the city for a nature park.

"The Conservancy has set up a permanaent committee here," said Keith Argow, an instructor at N.C. State and local representative for the Conservancy. If the city ever uses the land for anything besides a nature park it goes back to the Conservancy.

"There's no need to worry about that," said Frank Evans, city parks and recreation director. "We feel the city needs a variety of park facilities," he said. Development of the park will involve only cleaning out the deadfalls, Evans continued. Paths will be made, and signs will point out the variety of plant life . . .

Miss Browne's brother, Owens, owns the adjoining tract. He stood at the edge of a bluff that fell sharply away to the creek below and pointed to a mammoth beech tree clinging to the edge of the bluff, scarred with several generations of initials, hearts and arrows.

"When I was a boy, I used to climb that tree," he chuckled. "I don't know now how I ever did it." He searched around the trunk, running his fingers over the initials. "Cicely, here's where you carved your initials when you were a girl," he said, pointing to three letters with the number 20 carved deep into the bark . . .

The land has been in the Browne family over 50 years. There were originally 18 acres in the family holdings; but over the years, it's been cut back to Miss Browne's four and her brother's holdings.

Miss Browne was a technician in the Department of Forest Resources until her retirement. "I decided to give the land as a park because I couldn't stand to see the trees cut down," she

FORT DODGE MESSENGER

The Diggings, Iowa

smiled. "I'll still be able to walk through the woods like I always have."

The park will be named Hymettus Woods. "Hymettus is a mountain in Greece," Miss Browne said. "They made a special type of honey there, and my mother used to keep bees in these woods. Mother was fond of Greek mythology. We wanted the park to be a sort of memorial to my parents, so we're naming it after that mountain in Greece. Hymettus Woods."

"It's going to be an open park," Evans said, plucking beggar lice from his coat sleeve. "No gates, no fences. It's going to be a great place to bring school kids. We've got a sample of just about every plant native to this area. I'm not sure even Umstead Park can claim that."

Late afternoon shadows dappled the forest floor, and a raw wind rustled the leaves.

Miss Browne fingered a crimson sweet-gum leaf.

"It's a nice place," she said.

Raleigh *Times*

This past weekend [June 21-22] had a group of about 75 members of the Wisconsin Chapter of Nature Conservancy staying in the Ridges area. The event was their annual meeting, this being their first to be held in Baileys Harbor.

It was the Wisconsin Chapter of the Nature Conservancy which purchased the Toft Point area in Baileys Harbor, to the east of the Ridges Sanctuary, and then turned it over to the University of Wisconsin at Green Bay. Also, they helped the Ridges Sanctuary several years ago with a vital loan of money for purchase of some endangered land which includes parts of Deerlick Trail. It came at a time when the Ridges organization lacked the necessary money, money which was quickly repaid after a plea was sent to all members.

These are broad-minded and dedicated people. It was a thrilling weekend being with them and helping them to see and to enjoy the Ridges and Toft Point areas. To hear of the unselfishness of these people as is indicated by the hours and hours of free time and the thousands of dollars donated toward land preservation is an experience everyone should take part in. Here is a perfect example of foresightedness in action. They are not satisfied with only their enjoyment of some of the most beautiful natural areas, including woodlands, bogs, prairies, marshes and meadows, but are arranging so that future generations as well may have the same privileges.

The work of The Nature Conservancy is taking on more and more activity and action as our population soars and available land becomes less and less available. Many great philosophers feel that in order for an individual to maintain a proper balance of living, (I call it pure sanity), he must have some way of communing with Nature. People must have some ways in which to grasp the essence of life from its most simple of forms. Crowded campsites and simple hiking trails may do for many people. Unspoiled wilderness areas may be demanded by others. Rugged and remote canoeing areas still exist for the hardy individuals who need an annual recreating.

So my hat goes off to members of our Nature Conservancy Chapter for what they stand for and for their magnificent accomplishments.

Door County (Wisc.) *Advocate*

The Mianus River Gorge Conservation Committee, an affiliate of The Nature Conservancy, has received from Capt. Gerard H. Wood, USN (Ret.) of Bedford Village, New York, a gift of 5.78 acres of the backland of his estate extending along both banks of the Mianus River.

At the title closing, Captain Wood explained that he was making this gift at this time because he believed that currently prevalent new land encroachments, filling in of swampland and felling of trees have become ever-increasing dangers to the community, leading invariably to calamitous flooding and erosion of the land, accompanied by serious damage to roads, bridges, wildlife, and residential property.

Mrs. Anthony Anable of Stamford, Connecticut, Chairman of the Mianus Gorge Committee, founded in 1953, the Conservancy's first project, stated . . . "Our long range hope, in which many conservation-minded men and women of New York and Connecticut join us, is a continuous green conservation belt along the Mianus River all the way to the New York-Connecticut State Line. At that point, the job of carrying this ideal well into Connecticut would be left to the Mianus River Valley Conservation Project of the State of Connecticut, launched in 1966, which already holds title to 327 acres along the river, with an eventual goal of 1,000 acres."

Conservationists, both lay and professional, are reported to be in complete agreement that it is highly important to save this "wilderness island" in such a region as this, which is undergoing rapid environmental change, especially since it is a watershed for water used for domestic consumption both in Connecticut and New York.

Stamford (Conn.) *Advocate*

Here are Ten Nature Conservancy projects, each of which has its own unique contribution to make to the present and to the future. In order to become fully protected preserves, however, these areas all need your financial support. Volunteers are hard at work raising the funds to buy these sanctuaries, but they need your help. Designate your contribution to whichever area you wish to help save. Making a choice is not easy, but whichever you choose, you will not be wrong.

1. Eldorado Shores, New York, is almost the sole remaining waterfowl sanctuary at Lake Ontario's eastern end. It cover 250 acres and has 3,500 feet of shoreline. (Balance needed $35,000)

2. Clausland Mountain, New York, rises just below the Tappan Zee Bridge on the Hudson River. This 500-acre mountain was destined to become a housing development until saved by citizen action. (Balance $200,000)

3. Wolf Island, Georgia, a very important sanctuary, lies in the mouth of Altamaha Sound. It is largely salt marsh. (Balance $75,000)

4. Fuchs Hammock, Florida, is a 15-acre treasure trove of rare fern, bromeliads, and semi-tropical trees and shrubs. It is near Homestead in Dade County. (Balance $40,000)

5. Murphey's Pond, Kentucky, in Hickman County in the southwest corner of the state, is 235 acres of cypress swamp. Animals, birds and reptiles abound. (Balance $55,000)

6. Pleasant Valley Cave, Missouri, south of St. Louis, is a cave of unusual interest surrounded by a 40-acre hardwood forest. (Balance $8,500)

7. Redbud Valley, Oklahoma, is a tract of 80 acres near Tulsa, offering marvelously varied habitat, including river bottom, cliffs, prairies, and woods. (Balance $45,000)

8. Ezell's Cave, Texas, is the famous home of the rare blind salamander, as well as other unusual life forms. (Balance $6,200)

9. Lower Tubbs Island, California, 330 acres of superb shorebird and duck habitat, is a key tract in the preservation of San Pablo Bay and San Francisco Bay. (Balance $240,000)

10. Dishman Hills, Washington, near Spokane, is an attractive 80-acre tract of cliffs, ravines, and woods. (Balance $6,000)

My contribution of $_____ is enclosed and is to be used towards the preservation of the area on the map which I have checked.

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(All contributions should be made out to T.N.C. and are fully tax-deductible.)

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